SMALL BOWEL SERIES (SBS)

- Radiographic study of the small intestine
- Done at timed intervals
- Small Bowel Follow-Through (SBFT): when SI is studied in combination of UGIS-SBS
- Purposes:
 - To study the form and function of the three components of the SI
 - o To detect any abnormal conditions
- Performed by:
 - o UGI-SB combination (Mouth)
 - o Complete reflux filling
 - Large volume BE
 - o Enteroclysis/small bowel enema
 - Direct injection into bowel through an intestinal tube
 - Difficult to performed
 - Intubation Method
- **BE & Enteroclysis:** used when oral method fails to provided conclusive information

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Presurgical patients
- Patients with perforated hollow viscus (intestine or organ)
 - o BaSO₄ should not be used
 - o CM used: water-soluble iodinated
 - Care must be taken to young or dehydrated patients
- Possible large bowel obstruction

PATHOLOGIC INDICATIONS

- Regional enteritis (Crohn's Disease)
- Enteritis
- Giardiasis
- Ileus
 - Adynamic/paralytic
 - o Mechanical ileus

- Meckel's diverticulum
- Sprue
- Malabsorption syndrome

PATIENT PREPARATION

- Soft residue diet for 2 days
- NPO after evening meal of the day before the examination
- NPO (breakfast) on the day of the study
- Cleansing enema/cathartics
 - o **Purpose:** to clear the colon
- Bladder should be empty before and during the procedure
 - Rationale: to avoid displacing and compressing ileum

PRELIMINARY FILM

• Plain AP Abdomen (KUB)

POSITION OF THE PATIENT

- Supine/prone
- Purpose of Supine:
 - To take advantage of the superior and lateral shift of the barium-filled stomach
 - For visualization of retrogastric portions of the duodenum and jejunum
 - To prevent possible compression overlapping loops of the intestine

• Purpose of Prone:

- o To compress the abdominal contents
 - Increases radiographic quality
- To separate the various loops of bowel
 - Creates higher degree of visibility

• Trendelenburg Position:

- For final radiograph in asthenic patient
- o Purpose:
 - To unfold low lying and superimposed loops of the ileum
 - To separate overlapping loops of ileum

LOCATIONS OF LARGE INTESTINE STRUCTURES IN RELATION TO PERITONEUM

- Intraperitoneal: within peritoneal cavity
- **Retroperitoneal:** behind peritoneal cavity
- Cecum: intraperitoneal
- Ascending colon: retroperitoneal
- Transverse colon: intraperitoneal
- Descending colon: retroperitoneal
- Sigmoid colon: intraperitoneal
- Upper rectum: retroperitoneal
- Lower rectum: intraperitoneal

RELATIVE LOCATIONS OF AIR AND BARIUM IN LARGE INTESTINE

- Supine Position
 - Air: rises and fills the most anterior structures (intraperitoneal structures)
 - Barium: sinks and fills the most posterior structures (retroperitoneal structures)
- **Prone Position:** reversed the above mentioned

UGI-SB COMBINATION (Bontrager)

- Routine GI first
- **Barium:** 1 full cup (8 oz); time noted
- **Second cup:** after routine GI; time noted
- 30-minute PA radiograph

- o IR centered high for proximal SB
- 30-minute interval radiographs
 - o IR centered to iliac crest
 - o **Finished:** when barium reaches ileocecal valve (usually 2 hours)
- 1-hour interval radiographs
 - o If more time is needed after 2 hours

SMALL BOWEL SERIES ONLY (Bontrager)

- Scout: plain abdomen radiograph
- **Barium:** 2 cups (16 oz); noting time
- First radiograph: 15-30 minute radiograph
 - o IR centered high for proximal SB
- Second radiograph: half hour interval radiograph
 - o IR centered to iliac crest
 - Finished: when barium reaches ileocecal valve (usually 2 hours)
- 1-hour interval or continuous half-hour interval radiographs
 - o If more time is needed after 2 hours

COMPLETE REFLUX EXAMINATION

- Administer BE
 - o To demonstrate colon and small bowel
- Preparation before exam:
 - o Glucagon
 - **Rationale:** to relax intestine
 - Diazepam/Valium
 - Rationale: to diminish patient discomfort
- Materials:
 - o Retention tip enema
 - o Enema bag
- **Barium suspension:** 15 +/- 5% weight/volume
 - o **4500 mL:** required to fill the colon and small intestine

- Allowed to flow until observed in duodenal bulb
 - Enema bag is lowered
 - Radiographs are taken

ENTEROCLYSIS (Bontrager)

- Injection of a nutrient or medicinal liquid into the bowel
 - Material: special enteroclysis catheter (Bilbao/Sellink tube)
 - Site: duodenojejunal junction (ligament of Treitz)
- Double contrast method
 - o Barium
 - **Rate:** 100 mL/minute
 - o Air or methylcellulose
 - Purpose: used to distend the lumen of bowel
- **Indication:** patient with
 - History of small bowel ileus
 - o Regional enteritis (Crohn's Disease)
 - Malabsorption syndrome
- Advantages:
 - Enhances the visibility of the mucosa (double contrast effect)
 - o Increases the accuracy of the study
- Disadvantages:
 - Increased patient discomfort
 - Increased possibility of bowel perforation during catheter placement

ENTEROCLYSIS PROCEDURE (Bontrager)

- Preparations:
 - Colon must be thoroughly cleansed
 - Enemas not recommended
 - Rationale: enema fluid may retained in the SI

- Special catheter advanced to duodenojejunal junction (near ligament of Treitz)
 - Under fluoroscopic control
- Thin mixture of barium sulfate instilled
 - o **Rate:** 100 mL/minute
- Air or methycellulose instilled
- Fluoroscopic spot images and conventional radiographs taken
- CT may be performed
 - Iodinated CM or tap water must be used

GASTROINTESTINAL INTUBATION METHOD

- The procedure in which a long, specially designed tube is inserted through the nose and passed into the stomach
- Small bowel enema
- Single-contrast small bowel series
- For diagnostic & therapeutic purposes
- Materials: Nasogastric tubes
 - Single-lumen tube
 - Site: proximal jejunum
 - Patient: RAO position (gastric peristalsis more active)
 - Aid in passage of tube
 - Miller-Abbott (M-A) tube
 - A double-lumen tube
 - For therapeutic intubation
 - Site: proximal jejunum

• Therapeutic intubation

- o Purposes:
 - To relieve postoperative distention
 - To decompress a SB obstruction

INTUBATION METHOD PROCEDURE (Bontrager)

- Single-lumen catheter advanced to proximal jejunum
 - **Double lumen:** used for therapeutic intubation
- Water-soluble iodinated CM or thin mixture of BaSO₄ instilled (time noted)
- Conventional radiograph of fluoroscopic spot images taken (at specific time intervals)

SMALL BOWEL SERIES PROCEDURE (Ballinger)

- **First radiograph:** 15 minutes
 - o After the patient drinks the barium
- **Second radiograph:** b/n 15-30 minutes
 - o Depends on transit time of barium
- Glass of ice water/food stimulant:
 - o For patient with hypomotility
 - o Given after 3-4 hours of administering barium
 - o **Purpose:** to accelerate peristalsis
- Alternative methods to stimulate peristalsis:
 - o Water-soluble CM, tea or coffee
 - Peristaltic stimulants every 15 minutes
- Examination: completed in 30-60 minutes

POSITIONING ROUTINES

PA/AP PROJECTION

PP: Prone/supine

RP:

- Early Radiographs:
 - o L2 Ballinger
 - o 2 in. above iliac crest Bontrager
- Late Radiographs:

Iliac crest

CR: Perpendicular

SS: Barium-filled small intestine

- 30-minutes radiograph: barium location
 - Stomach and jejunum
- 1-hour radiograph: Ibarium location
 - o Jejunum
- 2-hour radiograph: barium location
 - o Ileum and proximal colon

When barium reached ileocecal valve:

- Fluoroscopy is performed
- Compression radiographs are obtained
- Exam Completed: when barium reached cecum
 - 2 hours (for normal intestinal motility)

LOWER GASTROINTESTINAL SERIES

BARIUM ENEMA/LOWER GI SERIES

- Radiographic examination of the large intestine
- Purposes:
 - Radiographically study the form and function of the large intestine
 - To detect any abnormal conditions

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Possible perforated hollow viscus
- Possible large bowel obstruction
- CM used: water-soluble iodinated CM
- Previous surgical examination
- Acute appendicitis
 - o UTZ or CT may be performed

PATHOLOGIC INDICATIONS

- Colitis
- Ulcerative colitis
- Diverticulum
- Intussusception
- Polyps
- Volvulus
- Cecal volvulus

PATIENT PREPARATION

- Same in SBS
- LI must be completely empty
 - **Rationale:**
 - To render all portions of its inner all visible for inspection
 - Retained fecal material may stimulate appearance of polypoid or small tumor masses
- Dietary restriction
- Bowel cleaning regimen
 - Complete intestinal tract cleansing kits
 - o GI lavage preparations
 - Cleansing enema (laxatives)
- Laxatives/cathartics/enema
 - o Two classes:
 - Irritant laxative castor oil (rare used today)
 - Saline laxative magnesium citrate or magnesium sulfate

- o **Purpose:** to empty alimentary canal
- o Contraindicated: patient with
 - Gross bleeding
 - Severe diarrhea
 - Obstruction
 - Inflammatory conditions (e.g. Appendicitis)

CONTRAST STUDIES

1.) Single-contrast method

- Barium sulfate
- Water-soluble iodinated CM

2.) Double-contrast method

- Single-stage procedure
 - Barium and gas injects at the same time
 - 7-PUMP METHOD (MILLER METHOD) is performed
 - Advantages:
 - Reduces cost
 - Saves time
 - Reduces radiation exposure
 - o **Barium suspension:** 200% weight-to-volume
 - o Important criteria:
 - Patient's colon must exceptionally empty
 - Suitable barium suspension be used
 - Barium must flow sufficiently to coat the walls of the colon (most important)
- Two-stage procedure (WELIN METHOD)
 - Welin stressed: importance of preparing the intestine
 - Colon must be cleansed as thoroughly as possible
 - Colonic mucosa must be prepared in such a way that

an extremely thin and even coating of barium can adhere to the colonic wall

- o 1st stage: Barium sulfate
 - Prone to prevent possible ileal leak
 - Colon is filled to left colic flexure
 - Right lateral projection of barium filled rectum
- 2nd stage: air enema (after evacuation of BaSO₄)
 - Prone
 - To prevent possible ileal leak
 - To prevent overlap of SI on rectosigmoid area
 - Aids in adequate drainage of excess barium from rectum
 - Welin stressed: importance of instilling enough air (1800-2000 mL or more)
 - To obtain proper distention of colon
- Advantages:
 - Reveals even small intraluminal lesions
 - Valuable in early diagnosis
 of ulcerative colitis,
 regional enteritis and polyps
- Examination time: no more than 20-25 minutes
 - Welin recommendation: regulation of evacuation
 - To avoid unnecessary waiting time
- **Contrast media:** demonstrates
 - Anatomy of the colon

- o Tonus of the colon
- Abnormalities of the colon
- Gaseous medium:
 - o To distend the lumen of the bowel
 - To visualize any small intraluminal lesions (e.g. polypoid tumors)
 - To render visibility of the bariumcoated mucosal lining

COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY COLONOSCOPY (CTC)

- Virtual colonoscopy (VC)
- Used as primary screening tool for colorectal cancer
- Used after a failed of conventional colonoscopy

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

- Disposable soft plastic enema tips
- Disposable enema bags
 - o **Capacity:** 3 quartz (3000 mL) or 500 mL (small enema bags)
 - o **Tubing:** 6 feet long
- Soft rubber rectal catheter (small caliber)
 - o Indicated: patient with
 - Inflamed hemorrhoids
 - Fissures.
 - Strictures
- Retention catheters
 - o **Old:** Bardex or Foley catheter
 - New: Disposable rectal retention tips
 - Balloon cuff
 - Enema nozzle
 - Reusable squeeze inflator limit the air capacity of balloon cuff to 90 mL
 - Extreme care must be taken when inserted
 - Rationale: possible intestinal wall damage

- Enema retention tips
 - Types:
 - Plastic disposable
 - Rectal retention/retention catheters
 - For patient with relaxed anal sphincters
 - For patient who cannot retain enema
 - Double contrast retention enema tips
- Barium enema container
 - o Open-system enema container
 - Old type system
 - Closed-system enema container
 - Replaced the open-type system
 - Advantages:
 - More convenient
 - Reduced risk of crossinfection
- Disposable enema bag with tubing
- Barium sulfate
- Enema tips

LATEX ALLERGIES

- Caused by: gloves, catheters, enema tip, tubing & other latex devices
- Patient may experience **anaphylactoid-type** reactions
 - Sneezing
 - Redness
 - o Rash
 - Dyspnea
 - o Death

CONTRAST MEDIA

- Colloidal preparations: commercially prepared BaSO₄ products
 - o Premixed liquids
 - o Powder
- Flocculation-resistant preparations: contain some form of suspending or dispersing agent
- **Mixing preparation:** follow the manufacturer's instruction (best recommendation)
- Warm Ba Administration
 - o **Temperature:** 80-90°F (29-30°C)
 - Below body temperature
 - o Too warm:
 - Injurious to intestinal tissues
 - Produces so much irritation
- **High density BaSO4:** newest barium products
 - Absorb a greater percentage of radiation than thick Ba products
 - Useful for double contrast studies
- Single contrast
 - Barium concentration: b/n 15% 25% weight-to-volume
- Double contrast
 - Barium concentration: b/n 75%-95% weight-to-volume or higher
- Air-contrast study:
 - o Air, Nitrogen and Carbon dioxide
 - \circ CO₂: commonly used
 - Rationale:
 - More rapidly absorbed than nitrogen
 - Well tolerated by the LI
- **Air or CO2 insufflation:** used to perform CTC/VC

• Barium sulfate suspension

- o Advantages: not subject to
 - Drying
 - Flaking
 - Unequal distribution in the colon

• Water-soluble iodinated CM:

- o Indicated:
 - Perforated or lacerated intestinal wall
 - When patient is scheduled for surgery after the BE
- Advantage: allows satisfactory examination of the colon for uncooperative patient
- Disadvantages:
 - Insufficient for satisfactory double-contrast visualization of the mucosal pattern
 - Rationale: nonabsorbable from the GI mucosa
 - Subject to drying, flaking & unequal distribution in the colon
- When retrograde filling is contraindicated: administer orally
 - Transit time: 3-4 hours (fast)
- CT Scan of LI
 - Barium suspension: low weight-tovolume
 - Rationale: to prevent artifacts from obscuring the anatomy
- Evacuative proctogram
 - Barium suspension: 100% weightto-volume (minimum)

INSERTION OF ENEMA TIPS

- Sims' position (LAO 35-40°)
 - Relaxes the abdominal muscles
 - Decreases intraabdominal pressure on the rectum
 - Makes relaxation of the anal sphincter less difficult
- IV pole: no higher than 24 in. (61 cm) above the level of anus
- Run a little barium mixture into a waste basin
 - o **Rationale:** to free the tubing with air
- Advise patient to relax and take a deep breaths
 - Rationale:
 - To prevent discomfort during tube insertion
 - To relax abdominal muscle and anal sphincter
- Elevate the right buttock laterally
 - o Rationale: to open the gluteal fold
- Tube insertion:
 - o Follow the angle of anal canal
 - Direct tube anteriorly 1-1.5
 in. (2.5-3.8 cm)
 - Then follow the curve of rectum
 - Direct tube superiorly
 - Total distance: no more than 4 in.(10 cm)
 - >4 in.: may injure the rectum
 - o TAKE NOTE:
 - Patient may assist if capable
 - Never forcibly insert rectal tube

PROJECTIONS FOR SINGLE-CONTRAST BE

- PA/AP projection
- PA Obliques
- Axial projection for sigmoid
- Lateral projection for rectum

PROJECTION FOR DOUBLE CONTRAST BE

- 1st Sequence: Prone
 - PA, TWO PA Obliques (RAO & LAO) & Right Lateral Projection
 - o To include rectum
- 2nd Sequence: Supine
 - o AP & 2 AP Obliques (RPO & LPO)
 - To include transverse colon and its flexures
- 3rd Sequence: Lateral Decubitus Position
 - o 2 AP Projections (R & L Lateral decubitus)
 - o To include rectum
- 4th Sequence: Upright
 - o PA & 2 PA Oblique projections (RAO & LAO)

PREEVACUATION RADIOGRAPH

• For demonstration of otherwise **obscured flexed** or **curved areas** of the LI

POSTEVACUATION RADIOGRAPH

- To evaluate if the barium is adequately evacuated
- Inadequate evacuation:
 - Give patient hot beverage (tea or coffee)
 - Rationale: to stimulate further evacuation

ENTEROSTOMY

- Enteron = "intestine"; stoma = "opening"
- General term applied to the surgical procedure of forming an artificial opening to the intestine (through abdominal wall)
- **Regional terms:** Colostomy, Cecostomy, Ileostomy & Jejunostomy
- Colon: most common site of disease in LI
- **Loop colostomy:** perform to divert the fecal column from areas of diverculitis or

ulcerative colitis (either temporary or permanent)

• Stoma: artificial opening; no sphincter

DEFECOGRAPHY

- Evacuation proctogaphy or dynamic rectal examination
- New radiologic procedure
- Performed on patient with defecation dysfunction
- No patient preparation is necessary
- Cleansing enemas not recommended
 - Rationale: water remaining in the rectum dilutes the CM

POSITIONING ROUTINES

PA PROJECTION

PP: Prone

• **Trendelenburg position:** helps separate redundant and overlapping loops of the bowel by "spilling" them out of pelvis

RP: Iliac crest CR: Perpendicular SS: Entire colon

PA AXIAL PROJECTION Butterfly Position

PP: Prone

RP: MSP at level of ASIS

CR: 30-40° caudad

SS: Best demonstrate rectosigmoid area

PA OBLIQUE PROJECTION RAO Position

PP: Prone; RAO 35-45° (side down is

demonstrated)

RP: 1-2 in, lateral to MSP of elevated iliac crest

CR: Perpendicular

SS: Best demonstrates

- Right colic flexure
- Ascending portion of colon
- Sigmoid portion of colon

LAO Position

PP: Prone; LAO 35-45° (side down is

demonstrated)

RP: 1-2 in. lateral to MSP of elevated iliac crest

CR: Perpendicular **SS:** Best demonstrates

3. Dest demonstrates

- Left colic flexure
- Descending portion of colon

LATERAL PROJECTION R or L Position

PP: Lateral recumbent (R or L)

RP: MCP at level of ASIS

CR: Perpendicular

- SS: Best demonstrates

 Rectum
 - Distal sigmoid portion of colon

AP PROJECTION

PP: Supine
RP: Iliac crest
CR: Perpendicular
SS: Entire colon

AP AXIAL PROJECTION Butterfly Position

PP: Supine

RP:

- 2 in. inferior to ASIS or
- Inferior margin of pubic symphysis (when collimated)
 - For demonstration of rectosigmoid region

CR: 30-40° cephalad

SS: Best demonstrate rectosigmoid area

AP OBLIQUE PROJECTION LPO Position

PP: Supine; LPO 35-45° (side up is demonstrated) **RP:** 1-2 in. lateral to MSP of elevated iliac crest

CR: Perpendicular **SS:** Best demonstrates

• Right colic flexure

Ascending portion of colon

Sigmoid portion of colon

• **Takenote:** same as RAO

RPO position

PP: Supine; RPO 35-45° (side up is demonstrated) **RP:** 1-2 in. lateral to MSP of elevated iliac crest

CR: Perpendicular **SS:** Best demonstrates

• Left colic flexure

Descending portion of colon

• **Takenote:** same as LAO

RIGHT LATERAL DECUBITUS AP/PA Projection

PP: Right lateral decubitus position

RP: Iliac crest CR: Horizontal

SS: AP/PA projection of contrast-filled colon

- Best demonstrates "up" medial side of ascending colon
 - When colon is inflated with air
- Best demonstrates "up" lateral side of descending colon
 - When colon is inflated with air

LEFT LATERAL DECUBITUS AP/PA Projection

PP: Left lateral decubitus position

RP: Iliac crest **CR:** Horizontal

SS: AP/PA projection of contrast-filled colon

 Best demonstrates "up" lateral side of ascending colon

- When colon is inflated with air
- Best demonstrates "up" medial side of descending colon
 - o When colon is inflated with air

VENTRAL DECUBITUS R or L Lateral Projection

PP: Prone; R or L side against vertical grid

RP: Iliac crest **CR:** Horizontal

SS: Lateral projection of contrast-filled colon

- Best demonstrates "up" posterior portion of the colon
- This position is most valuable in double contrast examination

AP, PA, OBLIQUE & LATERAL PROJECTION Upright Position

- Identical to those for recumbent position
- IR is placed at lower level
 - Rationale: to compensate for the drop of the bowel because of the effect of gravity

MODIFICATION/METHOD IN BE

BILLING'S MODIFICATION

PP: Supine

CR: 35-45° cephalad

SS: Demonstrates rectosigmoid colon **ER:** Used to prevent overlapping of loops

OPPENHEIMER'S MODIFICATION

PP: Supine

RP: 1 in. proximal to upper border of symphysis

pubis

CR: 12° caudally

SS: Demonstrates rectosigmoid colon

FLETCHER'S MODIFICATION

PP: LAO

RP: 2 in. medial to elevated ASIS

CR: 30-35° cephalad

SS: Best demonstrates rectosigmoid colon

ROBIN'S MODIFICATION

-most important modification in BE-

PP: Left lateral position

RP: 2 in. posterior to midaxilliary plane

CR: Perpendicular

SS: Demonstrates direct lateral view of the

rectosigmoid colon without overlapping

CHASSARD-LAPINE METHOD JACK KNIFE POSITION AXIAL PROJECTION

Chassard-Lapine: projection is made at almost **right angle to the AP projection**

- Demonstrates anterior and posterior surfaces of the lower portion of the bowel
- Permits the coils of the sigmoid to be projected free from overlapping
- Taken:
 - Postevacuation radiograph of LI
 - Preevacuation radiograph of LI
 - Only when patient has reasonably sphincter control

PP: Seated at the edge of table; thigh abducted; IR center to pelvis; lean directly forward; grasps ankle for support

RP: Lumbosacral region at level of greater trochanter

CR: Perpendicular

SS: Axial projection of the

- Rectum
- Rectosigmoid junction
- Sigmoid

WELIN TECHNIQUE

- Valuable in early diagnosis of:
 - Ulcerative colitis
 - o Regional enteritis
 - o Polyps
- **Air instilled:** 1800-2000 cc or more

-THE END

"Board Exam is a matter of preparation. If you FAIL to prepare, you PREPARE to fail" 05/26/14